

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (previously presented): Process for preparing a polyurethane material in a mould in which process the following steps are conducted:

- a) an external mould release agent is applied onto at least those surfaces of the mould which will be in contact with the ingredients used for preparing the polyurethane material and/or the finished polyurethane material;
- b) ingredients to be used for preparing the polyurethane material are fed into the mould;
- c) the ingredients are allowed to react and to form the polyurethane material;
- d) the polyurethane material so formed is removed from the mould and
- e) steps 2, 3, and 4 are repeated at least 10 times without repeating step 1,

wherein at least 25% by weight of the ingredients used to make the polyurethane material, excluding any optional water in this calculation, consist of polyether polyol having an average nominal functionality of 2-6, an average equivalent weight of 500-5000 and an oxyethylene content of at least 50% by weight and wherein the apparent overall density of the polyurethane material removed from the mould is 55-150 kg/m³.

Claim 2 (original): Process according to claim 1 wherein steps 2, 3, and 4 are repeated at least 15 times without repeating step 1.

Claim 3 (original): Process according to claim 1 wherein steps 2, 3, and 4 are repeated at least 25 times without repeating step 1.

Claim 4 (previously presented): Process according to claim 1 wherein a flexible polyurethane foam is prepared comprising reacting a polyisocyanate, the polyether polyol and water.

Claim 5 (cancelled):

Claim 6 (previously presented): A process according to claim 4 wherein the amount of water is 0.8-5% by weight calculated on all ingredients used.

Claim 7 (previously presented): Process according to claim 4, wherein the amount of polyether polyol having at least 50% by weight of oxyethylene groups is at least 50% by weight calculated on all ingredients used.

Claim 8 (previously presented): Process according to claim 4 wherein the reaction is conducted at an NCO index of 40-150.

Claim 9 (original): Process according to claim 8 wherein the index is 70-110.

Claim 10 (previously presented): Process according to claim 1 wherein step 1 is repeated after one week.

Claim 11 (previously presented): Process according to claim 1 wherein step 1 is repeated after 24 hours.

Claim 12 (previously presented): Process according to claim 1 wherein step 1 is repeated after 8 hours.

Claims 13-15 (cancelled):

Claim 16 (previously presented): A process for preparing a series of molded polyurethane articles comprising:

- a) applying an external mold release agent onto at least one surface of a mold;
- b) feeding ingredients to be used for preparing the polyurethane material into the mold;
- c) reacting the ingredients to form the polyurethane material;
- d) removing the polyurethane material from the mold; and
- e) repeating steps 2, 3, and 4 at least 10 times without repeating step 1,

wherein at least 25% by weight of the ingredients used to make the polyurethane material, excluding any optional water in this calculation, consist of polyether polyol having an average nominal functionality of 2-6, an average equivalent weight of 500-5000 and an oxyethylene content of at least 50% by weight and wherein the apparent overall density of the polyurethane material removed from the mold is 55-150 kg/m³.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The process of claim 1 wherein said mold is a closed mold.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The process of claim 16 wherein said mold is a closed mold.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The process of claim 1 wherein said mold is an open mold.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The process of claim 16 wherein said mold is an open mold.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The process according to claim 1 wherein said polyol has a number average nominal functionality of 2-4, a number average equivalent weight of 750-2500 and an oxyethylene content of 60-90% by weight, and is reacted with:

- a) a stoichiometric excess, relative to polyol, of a polyisocyanate containing at least 65% by weight of 4,4'-diphenylmethane diisocyanate or derivative thereof; and
- b) water;

to form an isocyanate-terminated, urethane-containing prepolymer having an NCO value of 3-15% by weight.